

Application No. 09/595,052
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

And please amend the abstract on page 107 as follows:

~~ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE~~

A halftone processing section halftone-processes input image data using a plurality of dither threshold planes. An image output section having different output position accuracies between a main scan direction and a sub-scan direction ~~and~~ outputs an image corresponding to halftone-processed image data. Each of the dither threshold planes consists of a plurality of the same unit threshold matrixes. In the unit threshold matrix, a relatively medium to high threshold array in a predetermined threshold range corresponding to the entire tone range of the input image data is an aperiodic array and an anisotropic array ~~having~~ with neighboring thresholds having close values, in a direction coincident with a scan direction, in which the output position accuracy of the image output means is ~~relatively low, having close values~~ low. With this configuration, the image output section outputs an image having serial medium and high tone dots in the scan direction. ~~As a result, it is possible to prevent occurrence of unevenness of density and stripes derived from the print position error of a printer.~~